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Thailand Dest Fest awards newcomers

2 May, 2014 | By [Liz Shackleton](#)

The Thailand International Film Destination Festival wrapped on April 29, with awards presented to the winners of the Amazing Thailand Film Challenge.

The short film competition involves 112 filmmakers, both students and professionals, flying to Thailand to make a short film in seven days.

The New Talent Award for Best Film went to *Man* by Charlotte Rabate and Chananun Chotrungroj, while *Return Of The Golden Lily*, directed by Takashi Hirose and Magnus Orn Thors, won the Experienced Vision Award for Best Film.

Launched last year, the festival aims to showcase Thailand as an international shooting destination, and also featured screenings of films that have shot in Thailand such as Peter Fudakowski's *Secret Sharer*, Roy Alfred Jr's *Glory Days* and Rakeysh Omprakash Mehra's *Bhaag Milkha Bhaag*.

Awards also went to guests for their contributions to Thailand's international film industry, including producer Daemon Hillin (*A Stranger In Paradise*), production designer James Newport (*Bangkok Dangerous*) and actresses Rhatha Phongam (*Only God Forgives*), Bai Ling (*The Lazarus Papers*) and Sonia Couling (*A Stranger In Paradise*). Thailand's deputy prime minister Yukol Limlamthong attended the ceremony.

Two awards were also presented to stars that the Thai public would most like to see in international films – the recipients were actress Ploy Chermarn, who will appear in Pen-ek Ratanaruang's upcoming *Samui Song*, and actor Nadech Kugimiya (*Akkanee's Heart*).

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